

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Thailand

Rice Price - Weekly

Weekly Rice Price Update

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Report Highlights:

Export prices increased 1 percent due mainly to the strengthening Thai baht. Prices remain under downward pressure despite government measures to keep new-crop rice off the market.

Post:
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Author Defined:
Market Tone

Table 1: Export Prices (FOB) for various grades of Thai rice (USD/MT), Week ending October 25, 2016									
Quality	Exporter Observations							Period Average	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR	PRV
F WR 100 B	615	-	-	625	675	625	-	635	643
WR 100 B	359	-	385	365	375	365	385	372	372
PB 100%	360	-	390	360	370	362	385	371	369
PB 5%	355	-	385	355	365	357	380	366	364
WR 5%	349	-	375	352	365	355	370	361	359
WR 10%	348	-	-	-	-	354	-	351	347
WR 15%	347	-	-	-	-	353	-	350	346
WR 25%	345	-	-	-	-	351	-	348	344
WR 35%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SUP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
A1 SPEC	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange rate: 34.7 baht/U.S.\$									
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

Export prices for most grades of rice increased around 1 percent due mainly to the strengthening of the Thai baht to 34.7 baht/USD, compared to 35 baht/USD a week ago. However, exporters expect domestic prices to remain under downward pressure as the majority of new-crop rice supplies are entering the market. This is particularly true for white rice due to planting delays in the lower northern region and the central plains. The anticipated bumper supplies of white rice will be a challenge for the effectiveness of the government's attempt to stabilize domestic prices through the Interest-Rate Subsidy Program. The Interest-Rate Subsidy Program, which begins on November 1, subsidizes millers for keeping white rice off the market. The goal of the program is to keep approximately half of the new-crop white rice off the market until all of the white rice has been harvested. The Ministry of Commerce reported that around 300-350 millers are participating in the program which accounts for only around one-third of total rice mills.

Rice Export Update

Unofficial preliminary rice exports (excluding premium white and fragrant rice) for October 17-23, 2016 totaled 96,604 metric tons, down 38,030 metric tons from the previous week and down 17,891 metric tons from the four-week moving average of 114,495 metric tons (Table 2). Rice exports from January 1 – October 23, 2016 totaled 3,266,191 metric tons, down 8 percent from the same period last year.

Table 2: Weekly Rice Exports (excluding fragrant rice)

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4 WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO	YEAR TO DATE AS % OF LAST YEAR
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)	(%)
Sep 4	99,123	87,208	2,461	2,797	-12.0
Sep 11	105,307	100,826	2,599	2,916	-10.9
Sep 18	123,337	112,057	2,689	3,052	-11.9
Sep 25	118,867	111,659	2,808	3,178	-11.6
Oct 2	116,935	116,112	2,925	3,285	-11.0
Oct 9	109,805	117,236	3,035	3,373	-10.0
Oct 16	134,634	120,060	3,170	3,486	-9.1
Oct 23	96,604	114,495	3,266	3,536	-7.6

Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. In addition, starting May 1, 2013, the data will not include 100% - 25% grade white rice exports as the reporting authority was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice and white rice (100%-25% grades) export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers available from the Board of Trade of Thailand. The reader should bear in mind these differences when comparing with historical data.

Source: Board of Trade of Thailand